

## 1. A LIVING FOSSIL

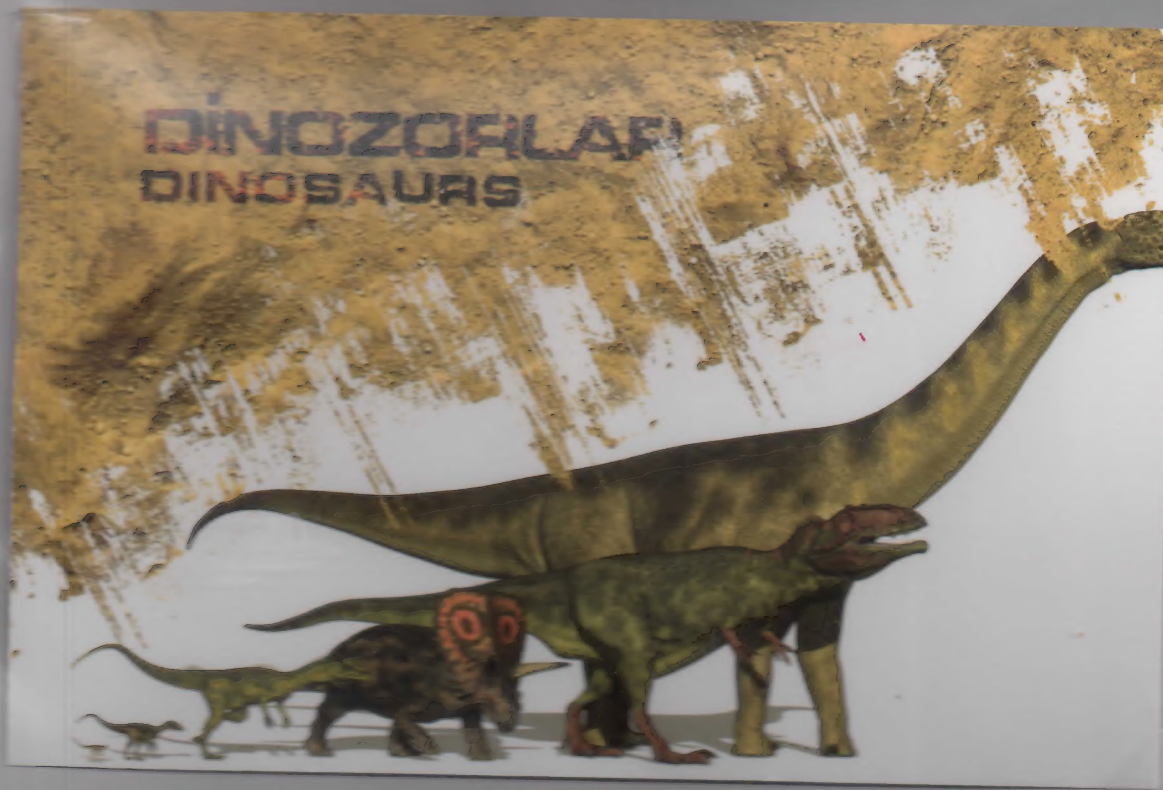
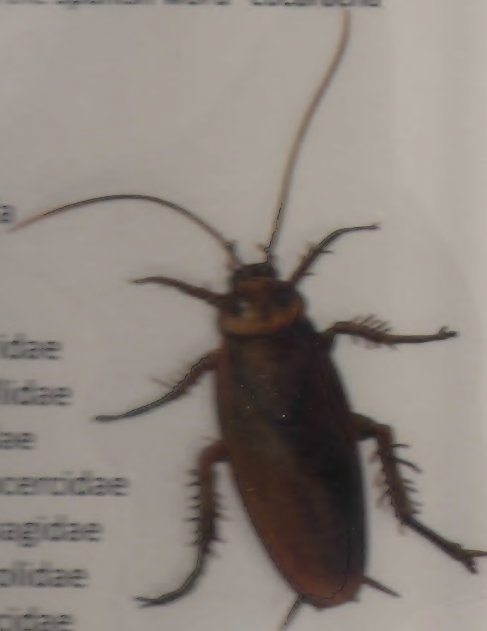
Actual fossil

Fossils of cockroaches are from the Carboniferous period 354-295 million-years ago. This fossil is of the *Cretaceous Blattulus* Family. The word cockroach comes from the Spanish word "cucaracha" which means "cray bug" or "toothsome bug".

The American Cockroach Society  
classifies Cockroaches as follows:

Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Insecta  
Order: Blattodea

Families: Blaberidae  
Blattellidae  
Blattidae  
Cryptocercidae  
Polyphagidae  
Nocticolidae  
Trypionidae  
Lamproblattidae



Cockroaches lived  
millions of years  
before the first  
cavemen and  
dinosaurs.